

December 18, 1954

Dr. Maxwell S. Doty
Chairman, Dept. Biology
University of Hawaii
Honolulu 14, T.H.

Dear Max:

First, in addition to the best wishes of the season, Esther and I send our heartfelt condolences for your present position.

As to the job opening(?) about which you wrote, most of my own contacts are heavily weighted towards research; if the "little" to which you refer is too little, it might take the intoxicating climate to attract or keep them there. I take it you would like to find one person who would be qualified both in genetics and cryptogamic physiology.

There is, in fact, one person who would fill the bill so well that, if I were in your position, I would break a leg to try to get him. In a way I'm sorry to recommend him to you, because I would like to see him settled closer to hand. He is Ralph Lewin (do you know him already?) At the moment he is at the Maritime Regional Research Laboratory at Halifax, N.S. Ralph did his Ph.D. at Yale (just after I left there). He has been working since on *Chlamydomonas*, and doing a first rate job. His wife (Joyce) has a similar professional background, is likewise an excellent physiologist (diatoms). I imagine an important consideration for the Lewins would be whether there are any formal restrictions on her working (presumably with support from outside research grants). If this could be arranged, it might reconcile him to a moderately heavy teaching load. If you could cozen him into the job, I am sure he would be what you are looking for.

Another possibility along the same lines is Dr. Ruth Sager, now at Rockefeller Institute. Her interests are more narrowly on the genetics of *Chlamydomonas*, and probably even more research-oriented, but she would be worth considering.

Let me know what you would have thought about Ralph (especially if you do know him already); if anything else occurs to me, I'll let you know. My own students generally do not have the plant-physiological background you are probably looking for, though I have an Australian student (about 2 years to go) who might do eventually.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Ger